



Following your surgery

- **Surgery on body:** Please keep the wound covered while it is healing. Change dressing if necessary.
- **Surgery on face:** Apply a non-medicated ointment, such as vaseline, three times a day for one week.
- Your surgeon will advise you when your sutures need to be removed. After the surgery, please book with our nursing team for suture removal, at no charge.
- We will post you a report detailing the skin surgery results and the follow-up required.

Possible complications

- Infection.
- Wound opening.
- Bleeding from the wound and bruising around the wound.
- Scar formation. Some scarring following skin surgery is to be expected. However, some patients can develop a more pronounced scar referred to as a “keloid scar”.
- Nerve damage resulting in numbness, pain, weakness or disability.
- Buried sutures may surface in the months after surgery.
- Incomplete excision of the skin cancer. Occasionally, a portion of the skin cancer may be missed. We are usually alerted to an incomplete excision by the histopathology report, and in this case your doctor will contact you to plan further treatment.
- There are other rarer complications of skin surgery. These usually pertain to particular locations of the body. If your skin lesion is on one of these high risk areas, your surgeon will discuss any additional risks with you.

If you notice any signs of wound infection such as increased pain, unusual redness, swelling or discharge, please contact us (or the hospital emergency department if after hours or over the weekend).